



# **Downtown** Transportation Plan Update

## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

September 8, 2011

# September 8, 2011 Agenda

## Kick-Off Meeting on DTP

- Briefing Book
- Regional Context
- Downtown Subarea Plan
- Scope of Work
- Consultant Contract
- Timeline

# Briefing Book

## Purpose

- Designed as a “Project Binder”
- Compiles existing conditions, plans, projects, policies, and other material related to DTP Update
- Organize future materials such as reports, agendas, notes, and consultant deliverables

## Organization

- Table of Contents
- Tabs correlate to major headings and sub-headings
- Additional material available online

## Looking Forward

- Dynamic - contents will change (grow) over time
- Table of Contents updates

# Regional and local context for planning

## Puget Sound Regional Council

- Vision 2040
- Transportation 2040



## King County

- Countywide Planning Policies



## Bellevue

- Comprehensive Plan
  - Transportation Element
  - Downtown Subarea Plan



# Puget Sound Regional Council

PSRC's mission is to ensure a thriving central Puget Sound now and into the future through planning for regional transportation, growth management and economic development.

## VISION 2040

Adopted regional strategy to accommodate the additional 1.7 million people and 1.2 million jobs expected to be in the region by 2040

*People: well-being of people and communities*

*Prosperity: economic vitality*

*Planet: healthy environment*

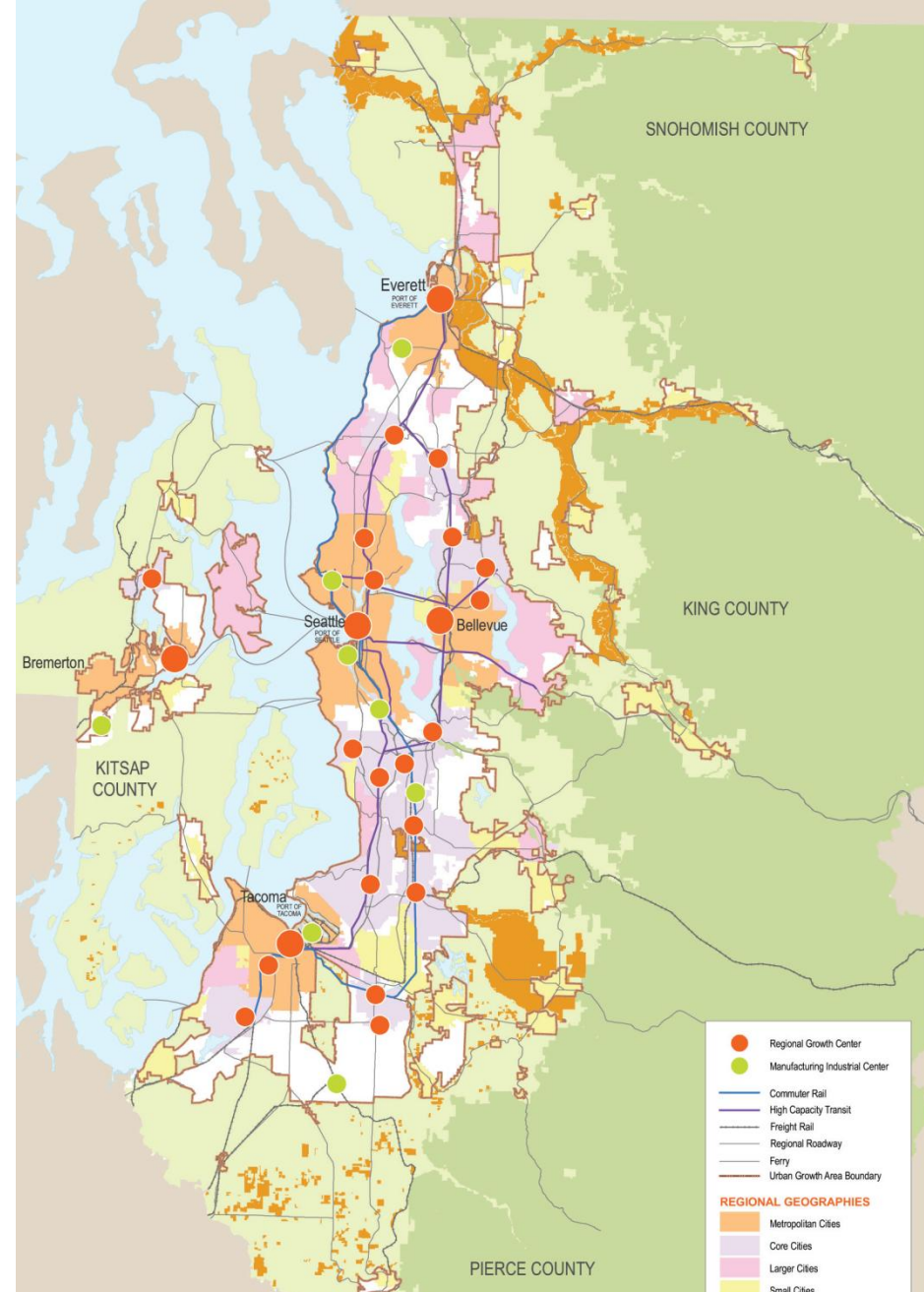




## VISION 2040

### Regional Growth Strategy

*“Metropolitan Cities”, “Core Cities”, and “Larger Cities” each play a strong role in accommodating forecast growth to help relieve development pressure on rural and natural resource lands.*

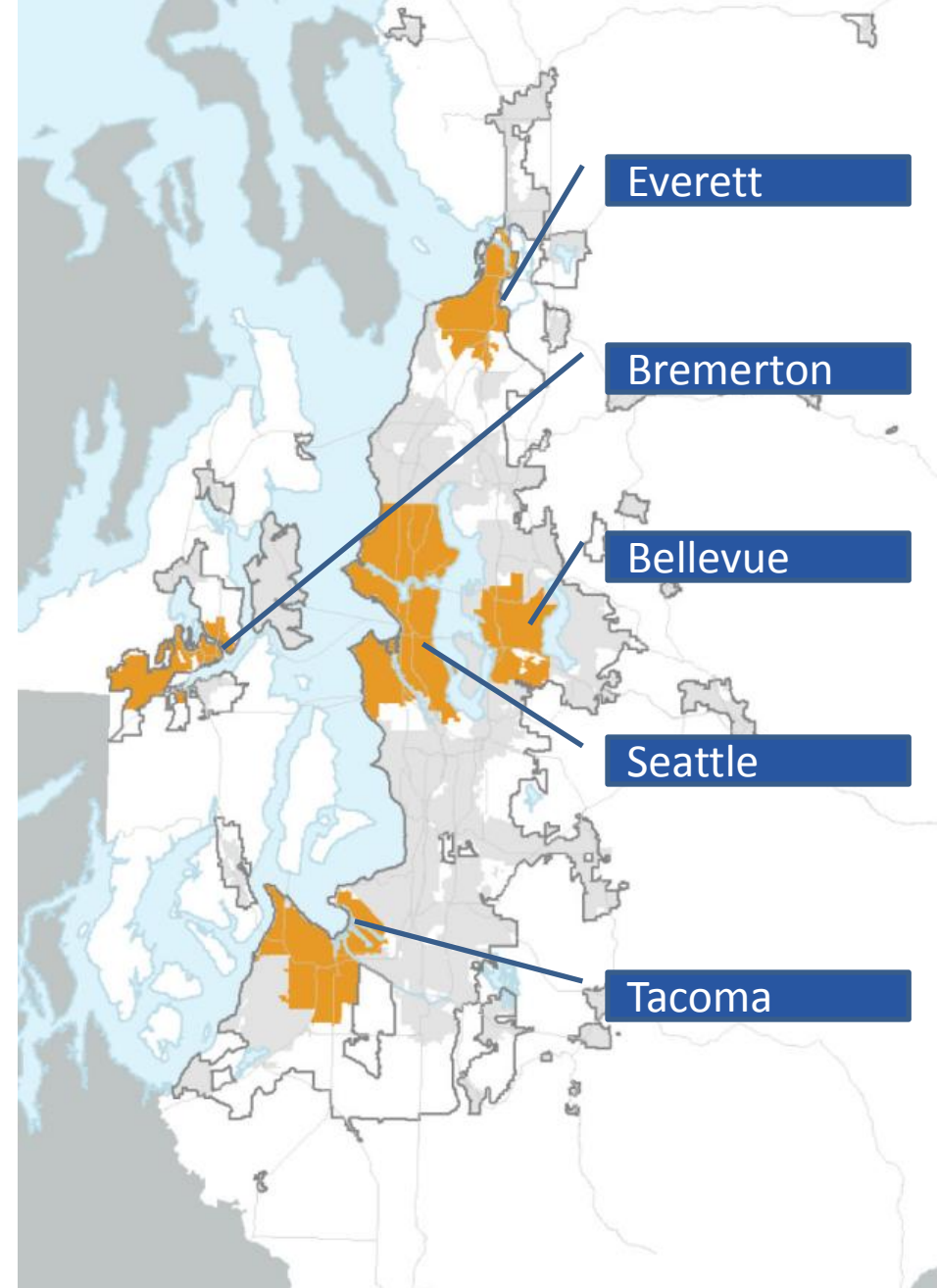


## VISION 2040

### Metropolitan Cities

Central cities that serve as civic, cultural, and economic hubs.

The Regional Growth Strategy calls for the five Metropolitan Cities to accommodate 32 percent of regional population growth and 42 percent of regional employment growth by 2040.



*Goal: The future transportation system will support the regional growth strategy by focusing on connecting centers with a highly efficient multimodal transportation network.*





# King County – Countywide Planning Policies

## **Growth Management Act 1990**

- Provides planning authority to counties to address land use and transportation issues

## **Countywide Planning Policies adopted in 1994; updated 2010**

- Shared Countywide vision
- Guidance to local jurisdictions

## **Planning Objectives**

- Encourage urban development
- Limit sprawl
- Enhance open space
- Protect rural areas
- Efficiently use human services, transportation and utilities

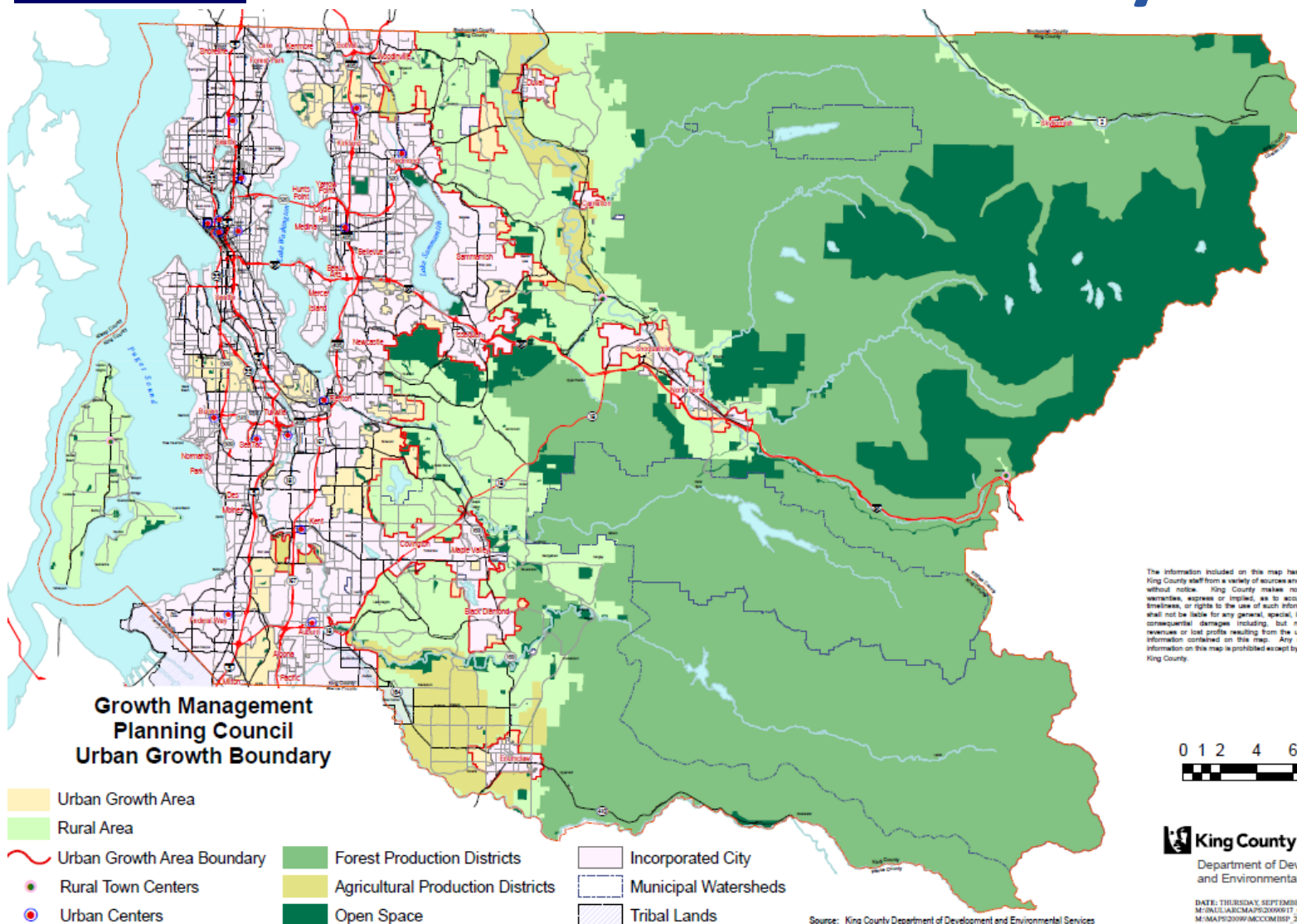
## **Urban Centers strategy – Downtown Bellevue**

- Concentrated employment and housing
- Direct service by high capacity transit
- Mix of land uses



King County  
Always at your service

# Urban Growth Boundary

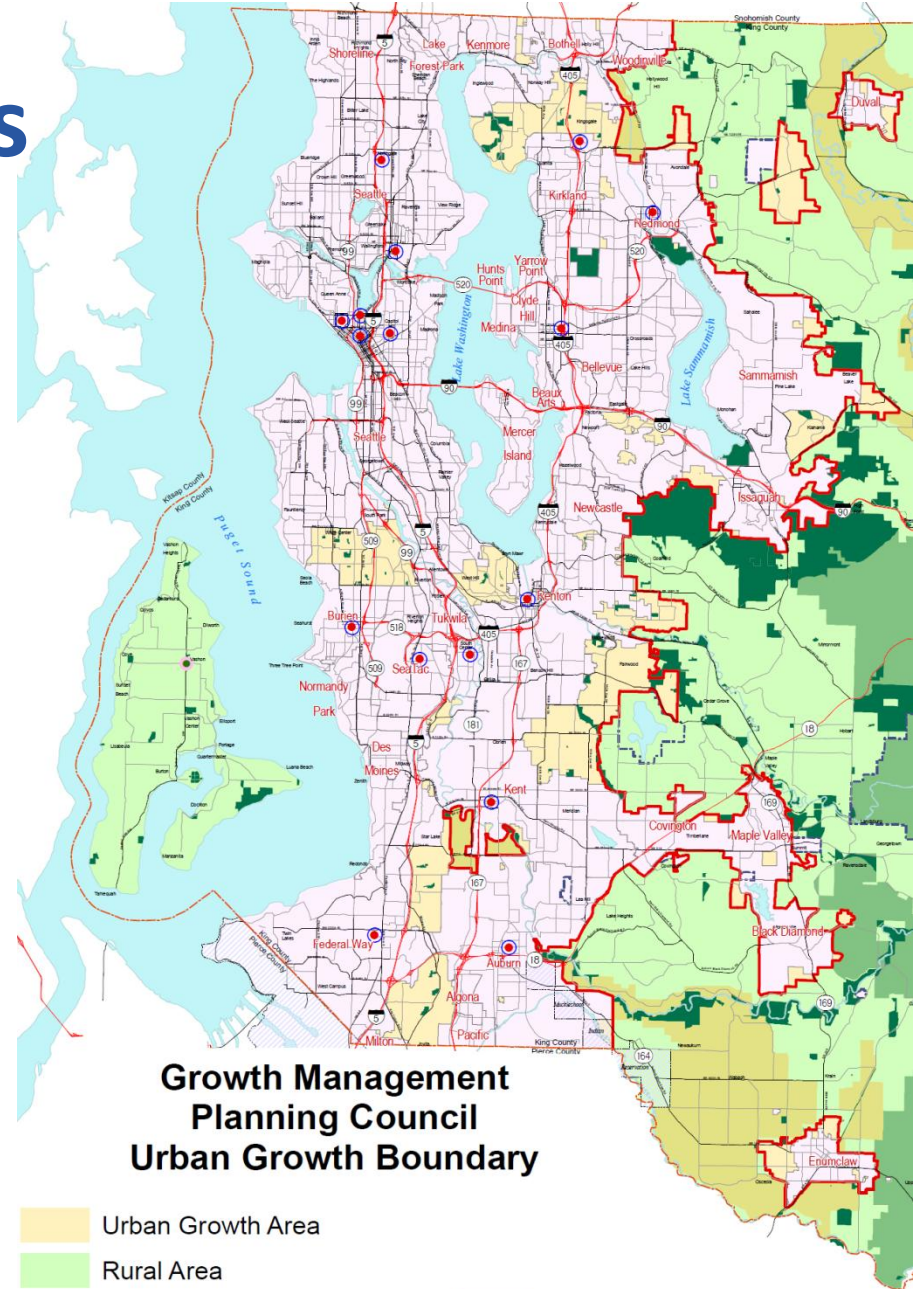


# Urban Centers

## Land Use

Provide a mix of uses and densities that will efficiently support high-capacity transit

| Criteria   | Downtown Bellevue  |
|--|--|
| A minimum of 15,000 jobs within .5 miles of a transit center | Most of the 42,525 jobs are within .5 miles of Bellevue Transit Center |
| A minimum average of 50 employees per gross acre             | 42,525 jobs /410 acres: 104 employees per acre                         |
| A minimum average of 15 households per gross acre            | 6,700 households/410 acres: 16 households per acre                     |





# Transportation

- **High capacity transit**  
*Link the Urban Centers*
- **Bus transit**  
*Links Centers and provide circulation within Centers, and links to the non-center Urban Areas*
- **High-occupancy vehicle network**  
*System links Urban Centers*
- **Non-motorized**  
*Provide travel options – local and regional connections*







# Downtown Bellevue Planning Milestones

## Major Milestones

- 1920s** – “Old Bellevue”; ferry landing to Leschi
- 1954** – City incorporates, early planning for a new downtown
- 1979** – Downtown (CBD) Subarea Plan
- 1981** – New Land Use Code with focus on compact, mixed-use development
- Mid 80’s** – Design guidelines and perimeter design district
- 1990** – Downtown Implementation Plan
- 1992** – King County Countywide Planning Policies recognize Downtown Bellevue as an Urban Center
- 2002** – Downtown Implementation Plan Update
- 2004** – Downtown Subarea Plan Update Adopted
- 2011** – Start Downtown Transportation Plan Update





# Comprehensive Plan

## Transportation Element

- Citywide transportation policy guidance
- No specific projects included

## Downtown Subarea Plan

- Focused on Downtown
- Comprehensive – including transportation
- Includes a project list for transportation and others



# Transportation Element

Ensure mobility for residents and businesses

Support land use plan

Provide travel choices

- Promote “alternative” modes
- Discourage SOV for commute trips

Protect the environment

Engage with regional partners on projects that serve Bellevue

Provide financing – allocate costs among users



# Downtown Subarea Plan

## Vision

- Dense
- Mixed use
- Pedestrian orientation
- Livability
- Culturally rich
- Economically strong
- High quality design
- Functional
- Safe, active and attractive

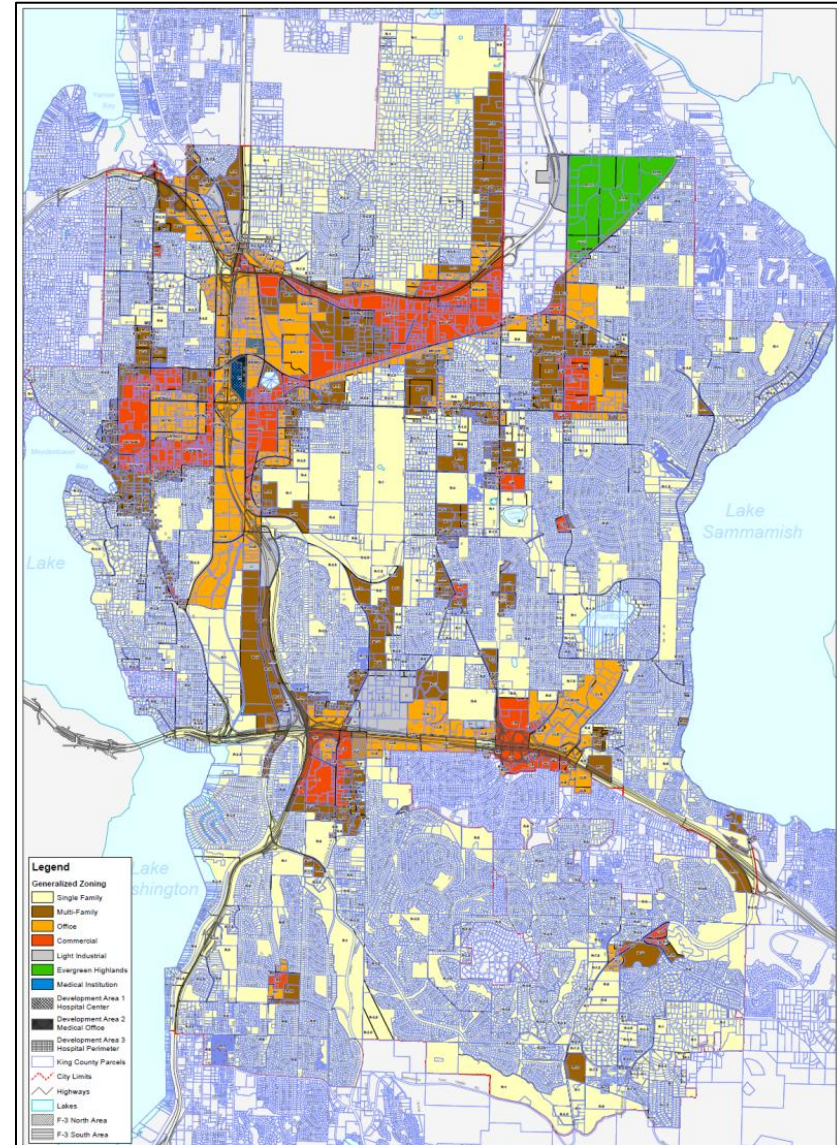
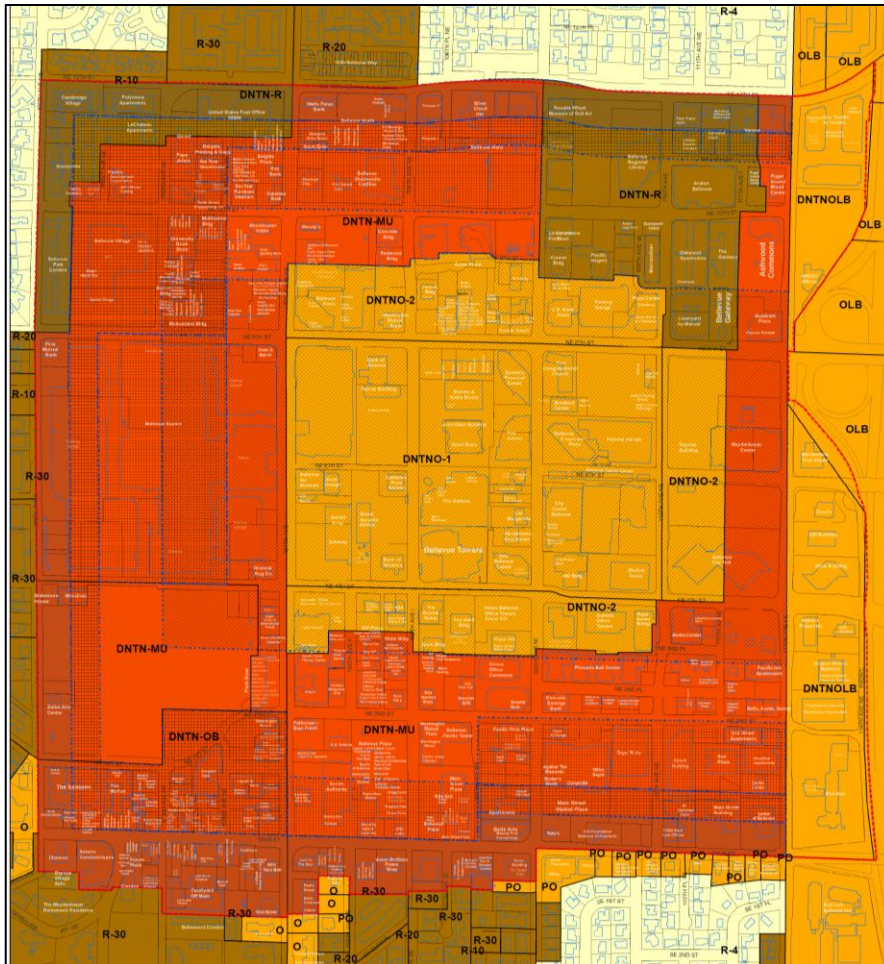






# Downtown Subarea Plan

## Zoning Designations



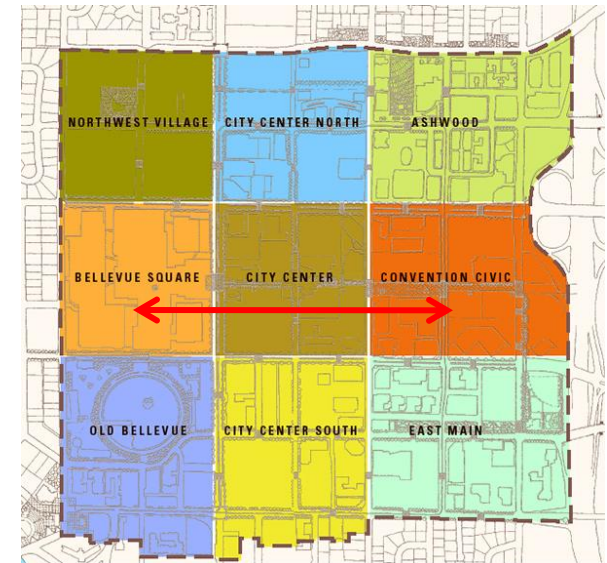




# Downtown Urban Design Framework

## Downtown Districts

- Superblock pattern
- Distinct mixed-use neighborhoods
- 10-minute walk
- Reinforce existing character
- Use of design guidelines
- Streetscape improvements

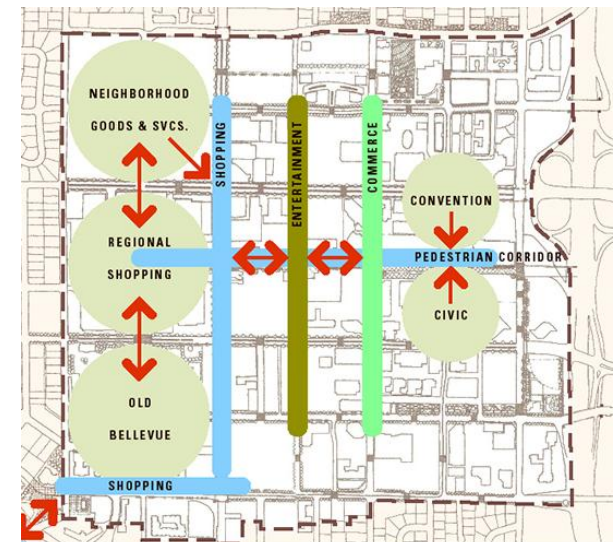


## Downtown Street Typology – Signature Streets

**Shopping Street:** Exciting mix of retail shops, restaurants, hotels, offices and residential units.

**Entertainment Avenue:** Concentration of shops, cafés, restaurants, and clubs provide for an active pedestrian environment and after-hours venues.

**Commerce Avenue:** Cluster of financial, information, and consulting services





# Downtown Urban Design Framework

- Tiered density and building height
- Perimeter transition to neighborhoods
- NE 6<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Corridor
- Pedestrian-oriented building frontages
- Through-block pedestrian connections
- Mid-block street crossings
- Urban amenity incentive system
- Structured parking





# Great Place Strategy

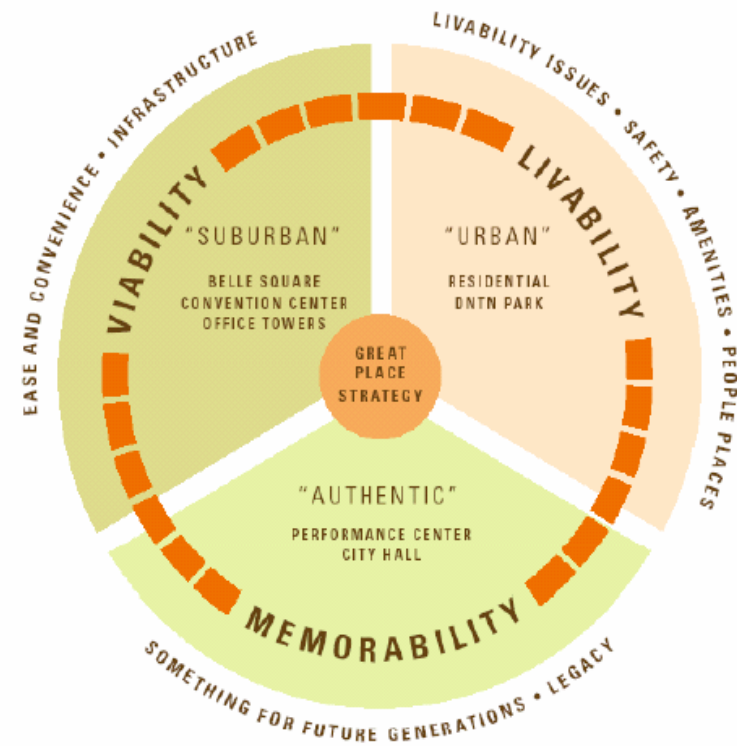
The evolution of a downtown is not a linear process – simultaneously growing and changing in each of these categories:

**Viability** – Quantity: creating critical mass through large-scale projects and factors such as freeway interchanges, regional shopping, high-rise zoning

**Livability** – Quality: weaving an urban fabric rich in resources and quality of life.

**Memorability** – Greatness: creating an unforgettable experience for visitors and residents alike with a strong, clear identity.

**Accessibility** – Getting around: providing multi-modal transportation facilities that meet the needs of commerce, residents and visitors.







# Transportation Policies

## Transportation planning – multimodal mobility goal

Provide an accessible transportation network for motor vehicles, public transportation, high occupancy vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, and parking

**Transportation planning - multiple approaches to consider simultaneously**  
Regional access to Downtown via roadway and transit systems

Mobility between Downtown and other parts of Bellevue

Safe circulation within Downtown for motorized and non-motorized modes





# Transportation Projects

- Adopted project list
- Making progress
- Not starting from scratch
- Keep, Modify, Replace

# Transportation Projects

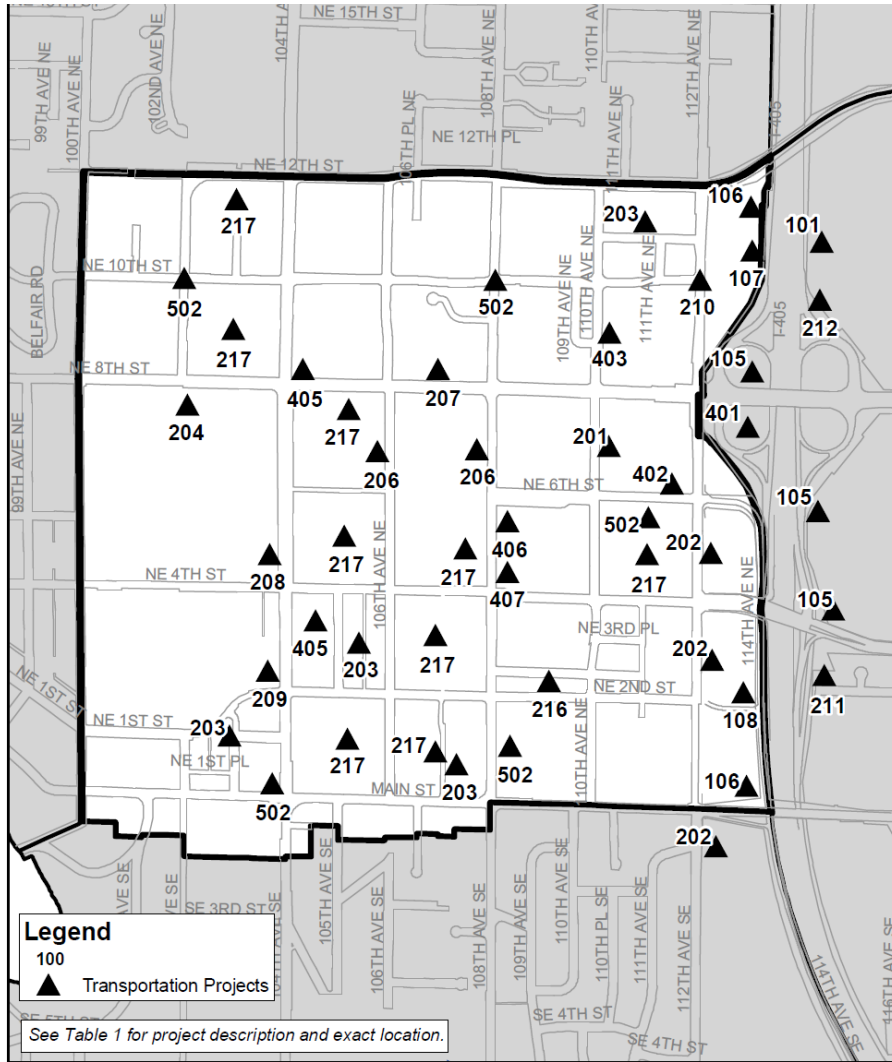


FIGURE B  
Downtown Transportation Map

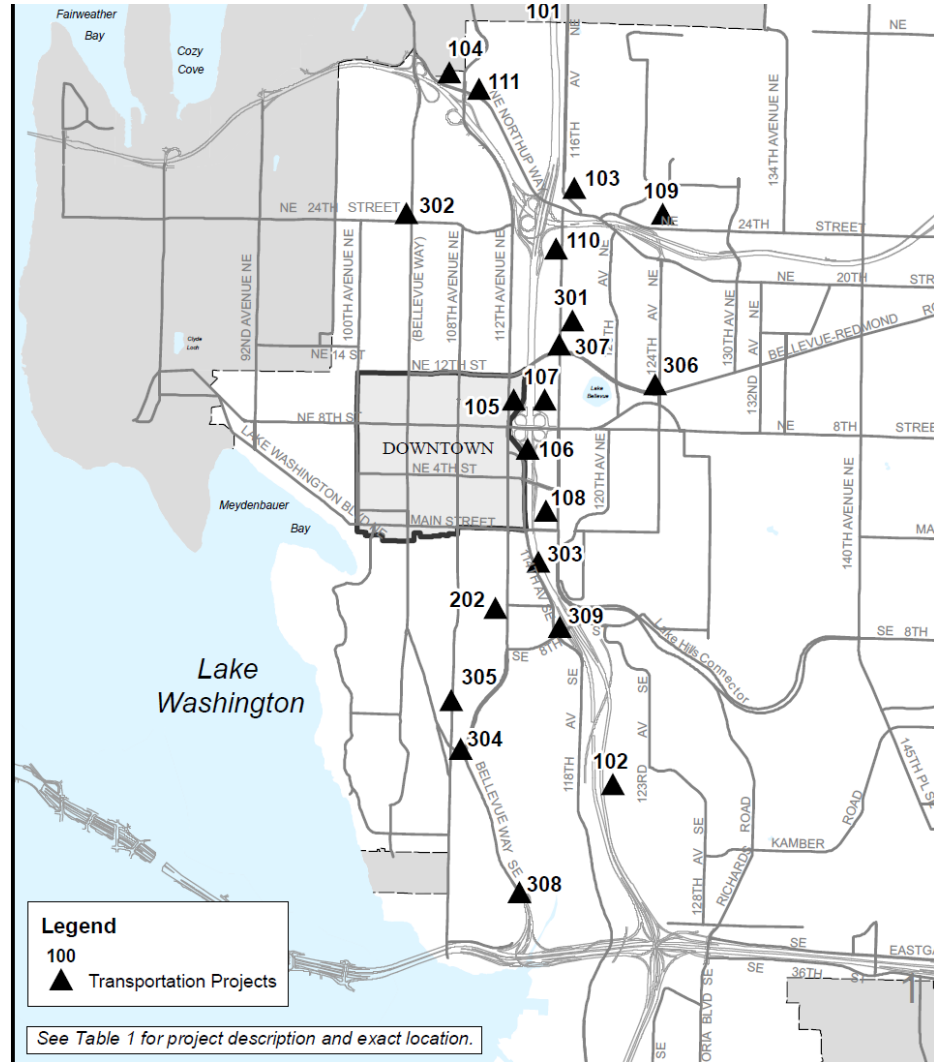
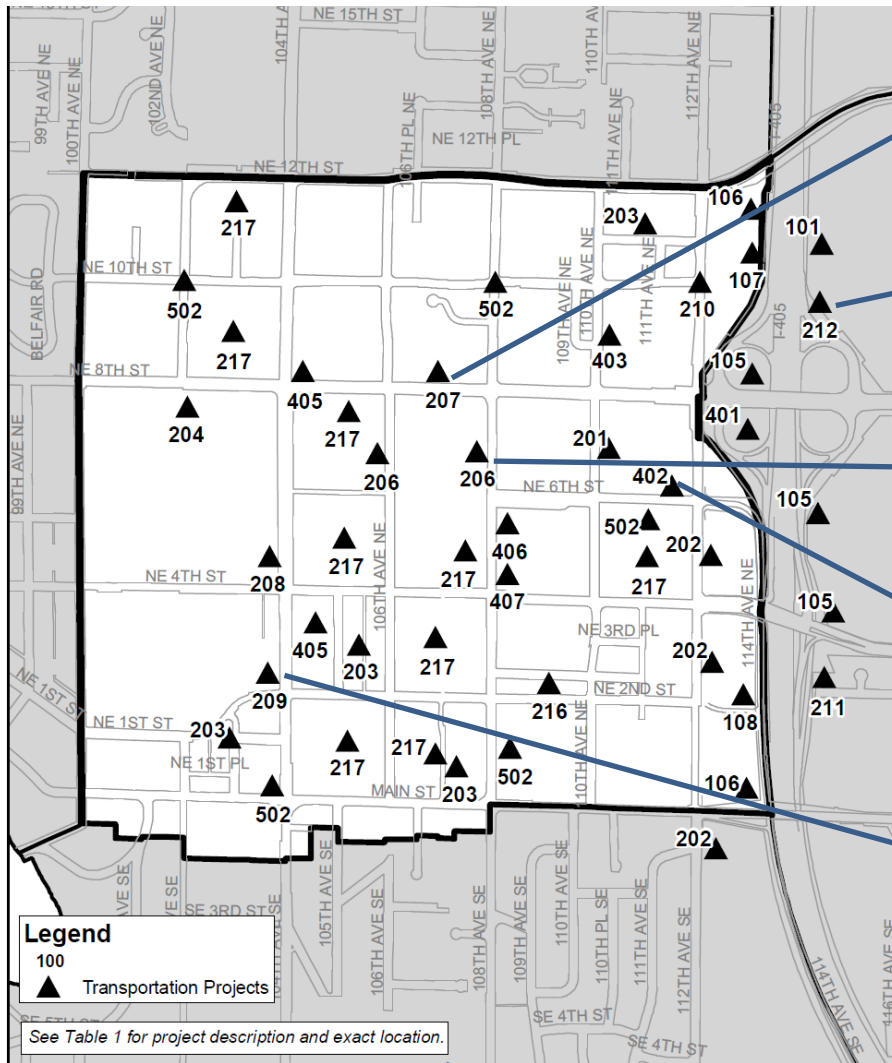


FIGURE C  
Outside Downtown Transportation Map

# Transportation Projects Status



**NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street:** Add one westbound lane on NE 8th St between 105th Ave NE and 108th Ave NE (while preserving the large sequoia)

**NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street:** Extend NE 10th St from 112<sup>th</sup> Ave NE across I-405 to 116<sup>th</sup> Ave NE. Development related road & access improvements

**106<sup>th</sup> & 108<sup>th</sup> Ave NE:** Implement a one-way couplet (106<sup>th</sup> NE nb and 108<sup>th</sup> NE sb) between Main St. and NE 12<sup>th</sup> St.

**NE 6th St between 112th Ave NE and I-405:** Construct a new transit center.

**NE 2nd St / Bellevue Way:** Add new southbound left turn lane on westbound NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

FIGURE B

Downtown Transportation Map





# Transportation Projects Status

**116th Avenue NE from NE 12th Street to Northrup Way:**  
Widen this section from 3 lanes to 5 lanes. **COMPLETE** to Children's Hospital.

**I-405:**  
Add new I-405/SR-520 access at NE 10th Street via collector-distributor lanes from and to the north. **COMPLETE**

**124th Avenue NE at Bel-Red Road:**  
Provide northbound to westbound and southbound to eastbound left-turn lanes (as proposed in the Bel-Red Subarea Plan). Design being **MODIFIED**

**108th Avenue SE between Main Street and Bellevue Way:**  
Provide traffic control measures on 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE to discourage through traffic. **COMPLETE**

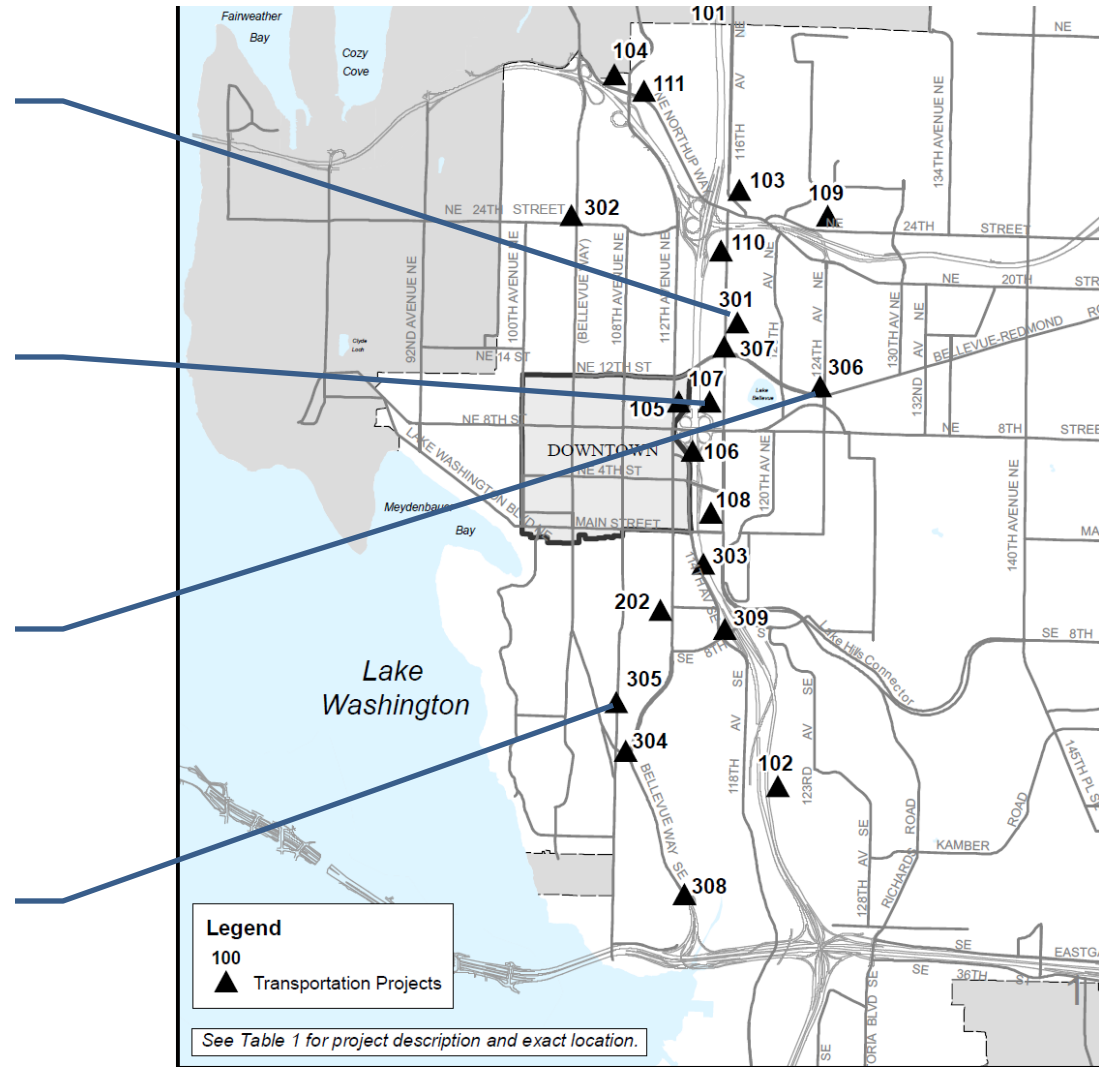


FIGURE C  
Outside Downtown Transportation Map



# Scope of Work

Best Practices

Existing Conditions

Roadways

Transit

Non-Motorized Transportation

Implementation

Final Report

# Scope of Work

## Best Practices

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# Best Practices

Best international examples applied to Bellevue

Measures of effectiveness

- Qualitative and quantitative
- Level of service, travel time, urban character

Transportation trends

Travel demand model (BKR)



# Scope of Work

Best Practices

## Existing Conditions

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# Existing Conditions

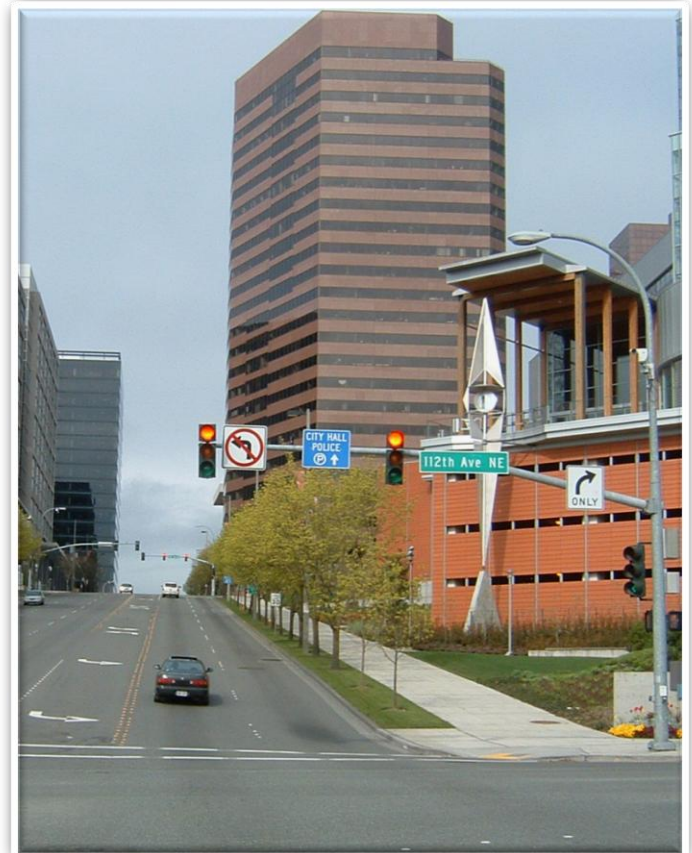
Traffic counts

Physical infrastructure

Right-of-way allocation

Operations and performance

All travel modes





# Scope of Work

Best Practices

Existing Conditions

## Roadways

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# Roadways

## Roadway Capacity

- Modifications and alternative approaches
- Potential new projects

## Roadway Operations

- Time of day analysis
- Signal system improvements

## On-Street Parking

- Permanent, off-peak

## On-Street Loading

- Permanent/off-peak

## Regional Roadways

- Benefit to Downtown mobility

## Traffic Operational Modeling

- Select corridors



# Scope of Work

Best Practices

Roadways

## Transit

Non-Motorized Transportation

Implementation

Final Report



# Transit

## Transit Routing

- Downtown coverage
- Transit Center operations and capacity

## Transit Service

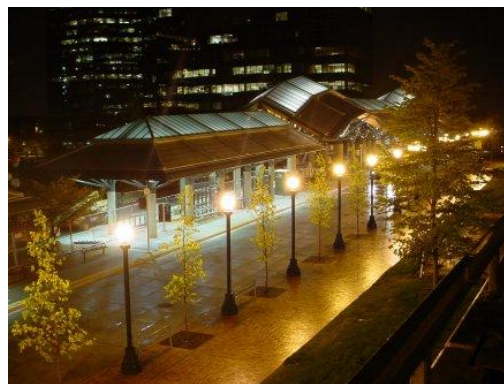
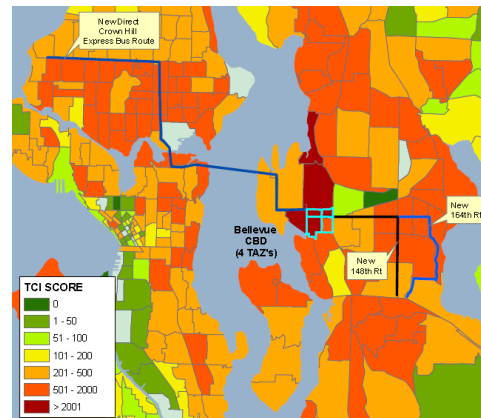
- Identify underserved markets

## Passenger Amenities

- Shelters, real time information

## Speed and reliability improvements

- Transit Signal Priority



A screenshot of a transit application interface displaying real-time bus arrival and departure information for the Bellevue Transit Center (TC). The interface includes a header with the location name and time, and a table listing various bus routes, destinations, scheduled times, and current status.

| Route | Destination          | Scheduled | At Bay | Depart Status |
|-------|----------------------|-----------|--------|---------------|
| 230   | Kingsgate P & R      | 1:20      | 10     | On Time       |
| 230   | REDMOND PR LAYOVER C | 1:20      | 5      | On Time       |
| 233   | Avondale             | 1:05      | 6      | Bus Departed  |
| 233   | Avondale             | 1:35      | 6      | On Time       |
| 233   | BELLEVUE             | 1:23      | 1      | 3 Min Delay   |
| 234   | BELLEVUE             | 1:01      | 1      | Bus Departed  |
| 234   | BELLEVUE             | 1:31      | 1      | On Time       |
| 234   | Northshore P & R     | 1:05      | 10     | Bus Departed  |
| 234   | Northshore P & R     | 1:35      | 10     | On Time       |
| 240   | Clyde Hill           | 12:59     | 8      | Bus Departed  |
| 240   | Clyde Hill           | 1:29      | 8      | 1 Min Delay   |
| 240   | South Renton P & R   | 1:05      | 3      | No Info Avail |

Save Time, Buy a Metro Pass. 624-PASS

# Scope of Work

Best Practices

Roadways

Transit

## Non-Motorized Transportation

Implementation

Final Report

# Non-Motorized Transportation

## Review existing projects

- 2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan
- Downtown Subarea Plan
- Retain, Modify, Replace

## Pedestrian Facilities

- Project recommendations – map and description
- Safe, comfortable and accessible

## Bicycle Routes and Facilities

- Project recommendations – map and description
- Safe, Downtown access, neighborhood connections





# Scope of Work

Best Practices

Roadways

Transit

Non-Motorized Transportation

**Implementation**

Final Report

# Implementation

Long-term multimodal mobility

Measures of effectiveness evaluation

Sketches and cost estimates

Phasing/Prioritization

- Threshold metrics

Funding

- Grant opportunities
- Multiple benefits



# Scope of Work

Best Practices

Roadways

Transit

Non-Motorized Transportation

Implementation

**Final Report**

# Final Report

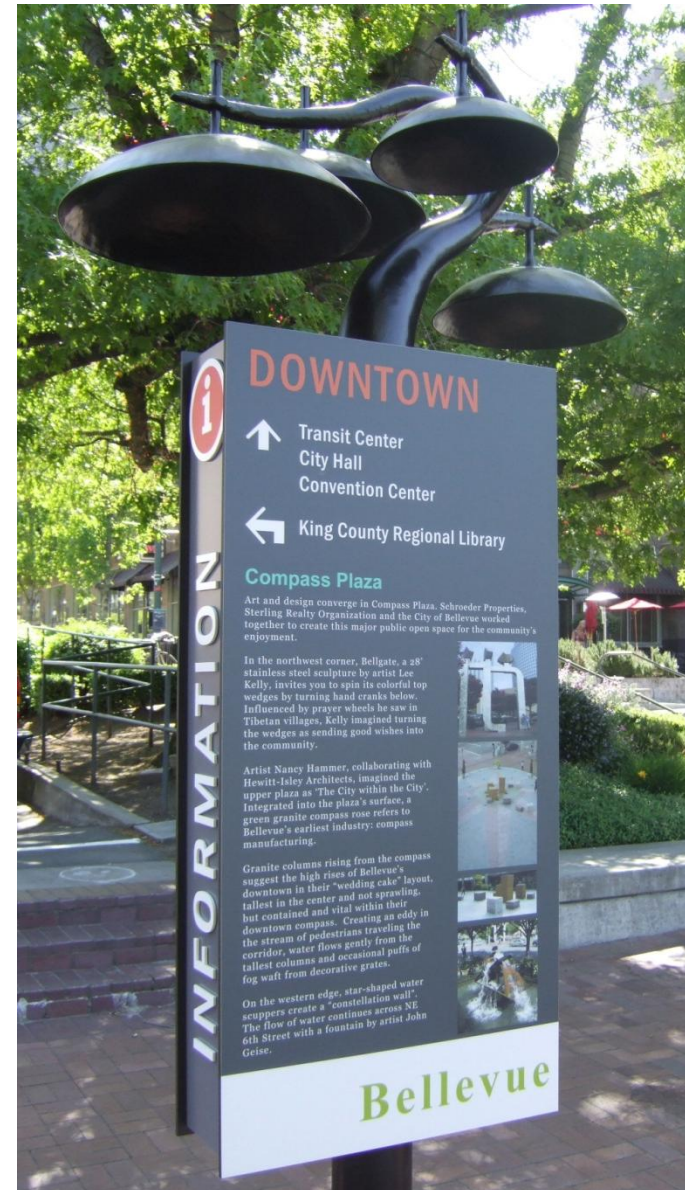
Project recommendations

Policy recommendations

- Amendments
- Additions

Public involvement process

- Document events
- Highlight issues





# Public Involvement

## In-person

- Transportation Commission
- Open house
- Outreach to stakeholders
  - Business community
  - Residents
  - Nearby neighborhoods
  - Field work
    - Walking audit
    - Bike survey

## Electronic

- Web site
- Survey

# Consultant Support

## DKS Associates

- Multimodal transportation systems and planning
- Overall project management

## • Nelson Nygaard Consulting Associates

- Transit planning and GHG analysis

## • Alta Planning + Design

- Pedestrian and bicycle planning

## • KPFF Consulting Engineers

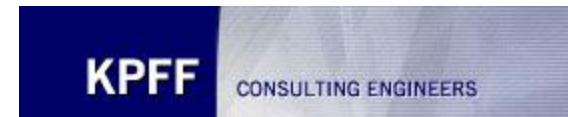
- Roadway design and cost estimates

## • Rick Williams Consulting

- Parking strategies and management

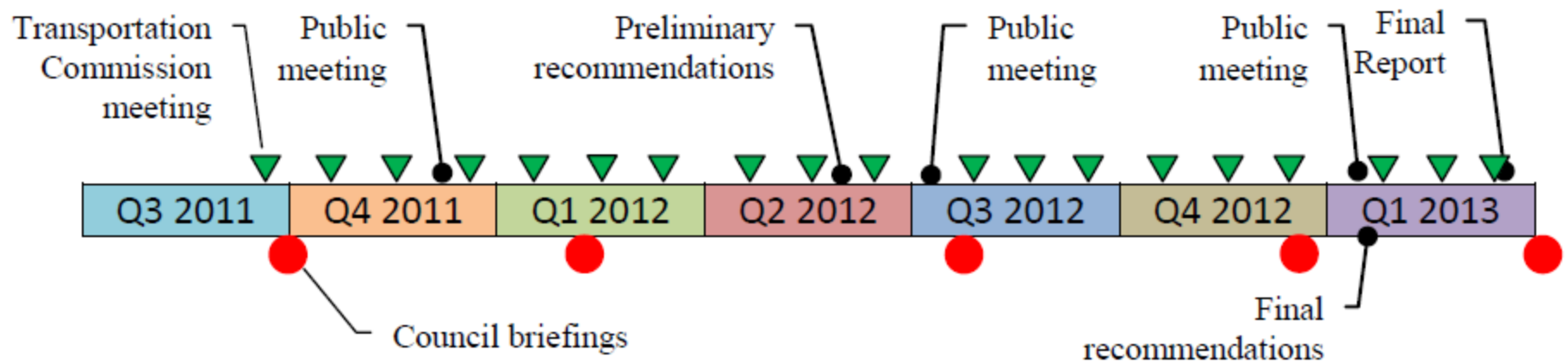
## • Perteet, Inc

- Technical advisors

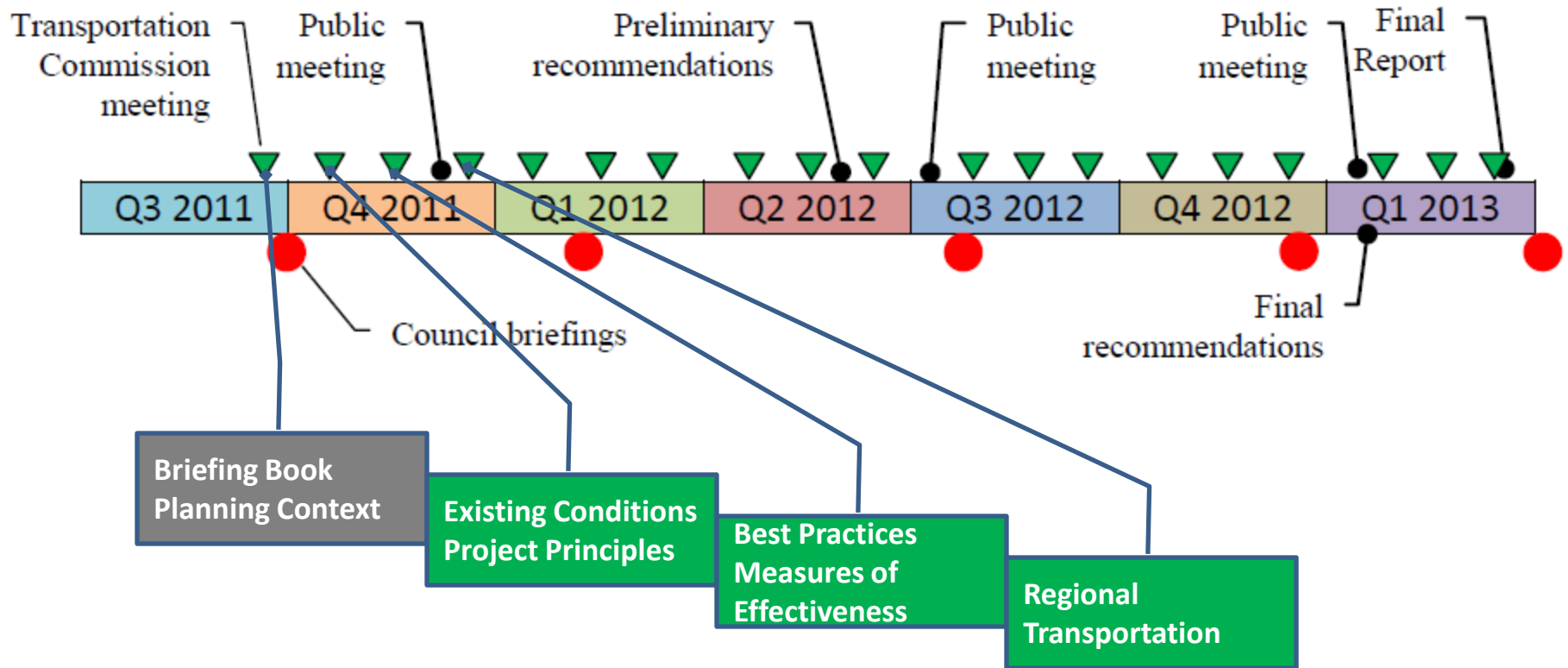


**Perteet**

# Timeline

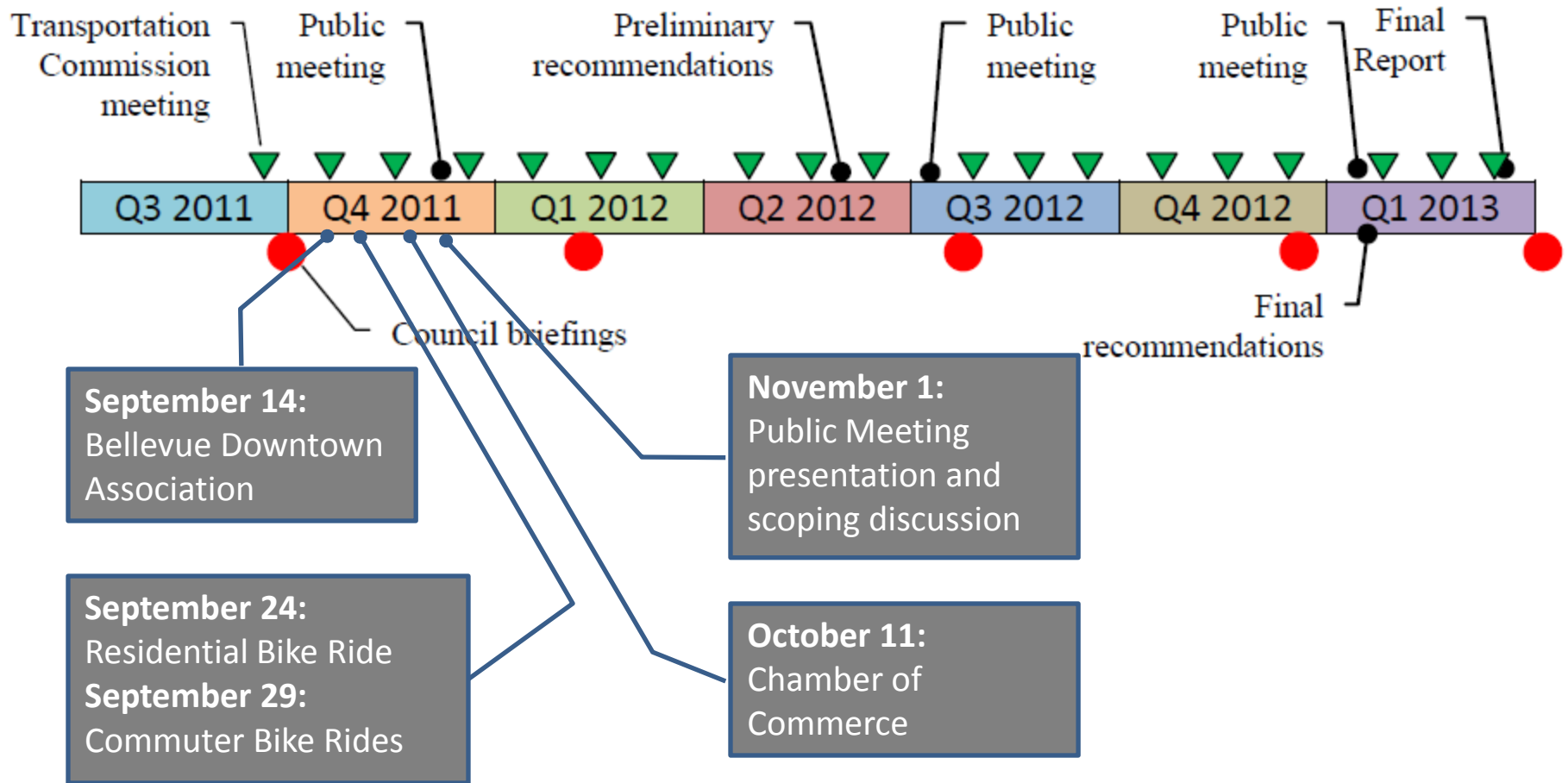


# Timeline – Transportation Commission





# Timeline – Upcoming Community Events





## Downtown Bellevue Bike Tour



## September 24: Residential Bike Ride



# Questions and Comments

Thank you!

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**[www.bellevuewa.gov/DowntownTransportationPlanUpdate](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/DowntownTransportationPlanUpdate)**